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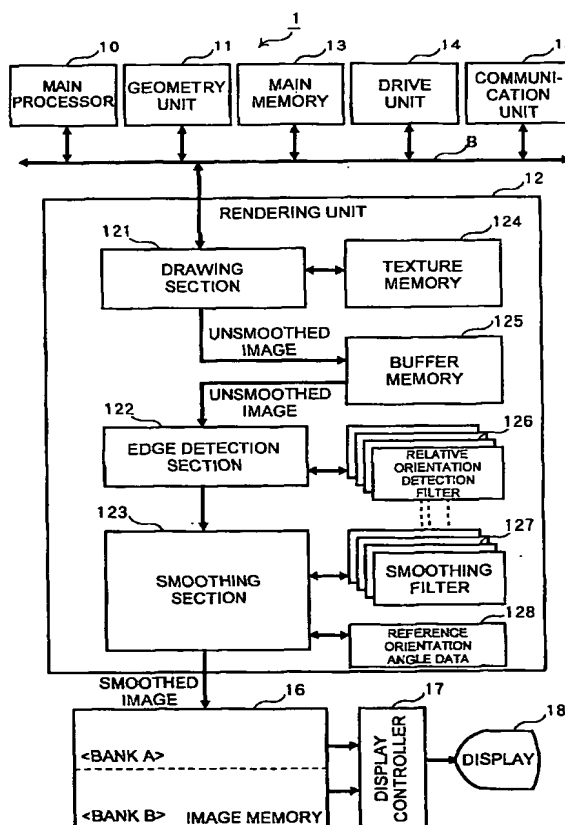[JP/JP]; c/o SONY COMPUTER ENTERTAINMENT INC., 2-6-21, Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0062 (JP).

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(54) Title: IMAGE PROCESSOR AND METHOD, COMPUTER PROGRAM, AND RECORDING MEDIUM

(57) Abstract: A plurality of relative orientation detection filters having orientation coefficients that represent a relative orientation of a connected sequence of pixel drawing regions with their pixel values distributed in a predetermined pattern in a buffer memory having the same structure as an image memory, and a plurality of smoothing filters having smoothing coefficients for corresponding relative orientations, are prepared. A rendering unit draws an image to the buffer memory. A relative orientation of an edge in this image is detected by means of selecting out one relative orientation detection filter that is most suitable for the relative orientation in question. Pixel values for the edge are smoothed by using the smoothing filter according to the detected relative orientation. Then, drawing data including the smoothed pixel values are written into the image memory.

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